

Message Text

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INFORM CONSULS

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SUBJECT: WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT, JUNE 12-16

1. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BRIEFING FOR THE 94TH AND 95TH
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSES

THE VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARIES VANCE AND BLUMENTHAL, AND
GOVERNOR GILLIGAN APPEARED JUNE 12 BEFORE ABOUT 40 DEMO-
CRATIC MEMBERS OF THE 94TH AND 95TH CAUCUSES AND THE
DEMOCRATIC STUDY GROUP TO ASK FOR SUPPORT FOR THE ADMINIS-
TRATION'S FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL. THE MAIN
THEME OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S PRESENTATION WAS THAT THE
BILL HAD BEEN CUT 1.1 BILLION IN COMMITTEE, THAT FURTHER
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CUTS ENDANGERED MAJOR ELEMENTS OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY AND
THAT WE HOPED THE HOUSE WOULD SUPPORT THE COMMITTEE BILL
WITHOUT FURTHER REDUCTIONS OR ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS
ON THE PRESIDENT'S AUTHORITY.

VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE STRONGLY PRESSED THE MEMBERS OF
CONGRESS ON THREE POINTS:

-- IT WAS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAVE
ADEQUATE FUNDS TO FULFILL OUR COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS

TO ASSIST COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE WITH THE GREATEST NEED;

-- WE HAVE A SIMILAR OBLIGATION TO FULFILL THE LEGITIMATE SECURITY NEEDS OF OUR FRIENDS AND OUR ALLIES;

-- THE DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS SHOULD GIVE THE PRESIDENT A CHANCE TO IMPLEMENT HIS HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMS. JIMMY CARTER BELIEVES IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND THERE IS "NO CASE AT ALL" TO MANDATE LEGISLATIVE RESTRICTIONS.

SECRETARY VANCE NOTED THE \$1.1 BILLION CUT BY COMMITTEE ACTION AND THAT FURTHER REDUCTIONS WERE BEING CONSIDERED EITHER FOR VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE BILL OR FOR AN 8 CUT ACROSS THE BOARD. THE SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT:

-- THE PRESIDENT HAD ALREADY PUBLICLY PROMISED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD TRY DURING HIS ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND THE RECORD WHICH WE NOW HAVE TO DEFEND AT VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES WAS FRANKLY QUITE "DISMAL"; AT ITS PRESENT LEVEL, THE BILL REPRESENTED THE 1977 BILL PLUS INFLATION ADJUSTMENT, ALMOST NO NEW INCREASE.

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-- WARNED THAT ADDITIONAL CONSTRAINTS ON PRESIDENTIAL POWERS COUPLED WITH FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND/OR SECURITY ASSISTANCE -- ALREADY REDUCED 20 -- WOULD CUT INTO VITAL PROGRAMS (FOR EXAMPLE, MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO KOREA AND GREECE); AND

-- WOULD SEND THE WRONG MESSAGE TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL STRONGLY DEFENDED OUR PROPOSED PROGRAMS FOR THE IFI'S. HE NOTED THE UNITED STATES HAD BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN THE CREATION OF THESE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS LARGELY BECAUSE THEY INCREASED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. WHILE OUR CONTROL OVER THESE INSTITUTIONS WAS REDUCED SOMEWHAT, BLUMENTHAL ARGUED THAT WE HAVE BEEN MORE EFFECTIVE OF LATE IN INFLUENCING THE POLICIES OF THE IFI'S. HE ALSO NOTED THAT FOREIGN ASSISTANCE INCREASED JOBS IN THE UNITED STATES "FOR EACH DOLLAR OF AID TWO DOLLARS WAS SPENT IN THE U.S."

GOVERNOR GILLIGAN:

-- EMPHASIZED RECENT MAJOR EFFORTS TO REORGANIZE AID;

-- STRESSED THE SUCCESS THAT AID HAD ALREADY HAD IN SIGNIFICANTLY CUTTING THE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL IN WASHINGTON AND IN REDUCING AID'S OVERALL ADMINISTRATIVE

BUDGET;

-- STRESSED THAT THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT REPRESENTED ONLY 1.25 OF THE OVERALL U.S. BUDGET AND ONLY A FRACTIONAL PART OF TOTAL U.S. GNP.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRESENTATION SEVERAL MEMBERS NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN TO THEIR CONSTITUENTS U.S. FUNDING OF PROJECTS OVERSEAS WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION WAS REDUCING SIMILAR PROGRAMS AT HOME AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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CITED WATER PROJECTS AS AN EXAMPLE.

2. GLOOMY PROGNOSIS FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS

PROSPECTS FOR THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL ARE BECOMING LESS HOPEFUL AS WE PROCEED INTO THE POST-PROPOSITION 13 ERA. AS THE BILL MOVES TO THE HOUSE FLOOR NEXT WEEK, WE MUST NOW EXPECT A SERIES OF RESTRICTIVE AMENDMENTS AIMED AT SELECTIVE COMMODITIES AND COUNTRIES CONSIDERED TO BE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATORS. THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE STAFF NOW PREDICTS THAT THE FINAL BILL MAY BE AS MUCH AS \$1 BILLION BELOW THAT REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE -- ALREADY REDUCED BELOW OUR REQUEST -- AND ATTRIBUTE DECLINING SUPPORT TO: A RENAISSANCE OF FISCAL CONSERVATISM; AND A BACKLASH AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE HEW AND PUBLIC WORKS APPROPRIATIONS.

A KEY DEVELOPMENT WAS THE DECISION OF THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE ON JUNE 15 TO ADOPT, BY A VOTE OF 6 TO 4, A RULE PERMITTING POINTS OF ORDER TO BE RAISED ON THE FLOOR AGAINST THE INNOCUOUS LANGUAGE PROPOSED BY CONGRESSMAN OBEY AFFECTING GENERAL COMMODITY RESTRICTIONS. WITH THE EXPECTED REMOVAL OF THESE COMPROMISE PROVISIONS, THERE WILL BE RENEWED EFFORTS ON THE FLOOR TO ADD RESTRICTIVE COMMODITY-SPECIFIC AND HUMAN RIGHTS AMENDMENTS. REPRESENTATIVE MATHIS HAS ALREADY PROPOSED ONE COVERING PALM OIL, SUGAR, CITRUS, TOBACCO, GRAINS, OILSEEDS AND STEEL. WE ALSO EXPECT EFFORTS TO FURTHER RESTRICT U.S. ACTIONS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN CASES INVOLVING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATORS.

DURING THE RULES COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS, CHAIRMAN LONG REITERATED HIS INTENTION TO OFFER AN AMENDMENT, PREVIOUSLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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DEFEATED 20-22 DURING FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP, TO CUT

APPROXIMATELY \$580 MILLION FROM IFI ACCOUNTS. REPRESENTATIVE YOUNG ATTACKED A PROPOSED \$60 MILLION WORLD BANK LOAN TO VIETNAM, THEREBY SIGNALING HIS PROBABLE MOVE TO OFFER A FLOOR AMENDMENT RESTRICTING "INDIRECT" LOANS TO VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, LAOS, UGANDA, ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, AND CUBA.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ACTIVELY CONTACTING MEMBERS WITH OUR SIDE OF THE STORY. WE ARE ALSO WORKING WITH OBEY AND A WHIP GROUP IN AN EFFORT TO HOLD THE LINE. DISCUSSIONS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN WITH KEY MEMBERS ON THE SENATE SIDE TO SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE TO REPAIR POSSIBLE HOUSE DAMAGE.

3. LIFTING THE TURKISH EMBARGO

AMBASSADOR SPIERS JUNE 13 COMPLETED A SERIES OF CALLS ON SOME FIFTY CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS OVER THE COURSE OF THE PAST WEEK IN SUPPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAM.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF CONGRESSMAN PAUL FINDLEY, MET WEDNESDAY TO PLAN HOW BEST TO WIN OVER STILL UNDECIDED CONGRESSMEN TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION ON THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. THEY PLAN TO INVITE GENERAL HAIG TO A LARGE BRIEFING SESSION NEXT WEEK, AND ARE ALSO PLANNING TO ENLIST SERVICES OF EX-PRESIDENT FORD AND HENRY KISSINGER.

THE LAST OF THE WHITE HOUSE BRIEFINGS FOR HOUSE AND SENATE STAFFERS WAS COMPLETED JUNE 14 AND A LARGE GROUP OF GREEK-AMERICANS WILL BE INVITED INTO THE WHITE HOUSE ON JUNE 22 FOR A PRESIDENTIAL BRIEFING.

TURKISH-CYPRIOT LEADER RAUF DENKTASH IS RETURNING TO WASHINGTON JUNE 19-20 AND WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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FURTHER SERIES OF MEETINGS FOR HIM.

CONGRESSIONAL OPPONENTS HAVE BEGUN A COUNTER-OFFENSIVE DESIGNED TO PROVE:

-- THAT THE ADMINISTRATION LACKS SUFFICIENT VOTES IN THE HOUSE TO WIN ON THE EMBARGO ISSUE;

-- THE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM WILL UNDERMINE PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS AND DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS GENERALLY IN GREECE;

--THE ADMINISTRATION HAS FAILED SINCE 1977 TO TRY TO MAKE THE EMBARGO WORK. ON THIS LAST POINT, A WHITE PAPER CONTAINING A VARIETY OF CHARGES ABOUT OUR FAILURE TO

IMPLEMENT AND UTILIZE THE EMBARGO EFFECTIVELY IS BEING DISTRIBUTED.

THE IMPACT OF THIS NEW DOCUMENT IS UNCERTAIN BUT THE .
CURRENT FEELING IS THAT THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE
STATEMENT, HIS BREAKFAST MEETING WITH CONGRESSMEN ON
JUNE 15 AND THE BRIEFINGS WE HAVE BEEN HOLDING ON THE HILL
HAVE BEGUN TO SHIFT THE TIDE IN THE ADMINISTRATION'S FAVOR.
NEXT WEEK THERE WILL BE AN EFFORT TO BUILD ON THIS
MOMENTUM WITH:

--HEARINGS BEFORE THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE ON JUNE 21;

-- THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH GREEK-AMERICANS ON JUNE 22;
AND

-- A SERIES OF BRIEFING SESSIONS WHICH GENERAL HAIG WILL
BE CONDUCTING ON THE HILL.

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THE HOUSE VOTE HAS NOT YET BEEN SET, BUT WE ARE WORKING ON
THE ASSUMPTION THAT IT WILL OCCUR SOMETIME BEFORE JUNE 30
ALTHOUGH IT MAY YET BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER THE JULY 4
RECESS.

4. MID EAST TESTIMONY

HAL SAUNDERS DELIVERED A COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT ON MIDDLE
EAST POLICY TO THE HAMILTON SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND
THE MIDDLE EAST JUNE 12. THE STATEMENT, WHICH INCLUDED
A STATUS REPORT ON THE PEACE PROCESS, STRESSED THE
INTERRELATIONSHIP OF OUR POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
INTERESTS AND MADE THE POINT THAT CLOSE RELATIONS WITH KEY
ARAB STATES IN THE AREA SERVE THE PEACE PROCESS AND DO NOT
MEAN A DIMINUTION OF OUR COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL. CHAIRMAN
HAMILTON AND PAUL FINDLEY PRAISED THE STATEMENT AND
CONCENTRATED THEIR QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT STEPS IN THE
PEACE PROCESS. BEN ROSENTHAL EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT IN
EGYPT'S AND SAUDI ARABIA'S LACK OF ACTIVITY IN THE
NEGOTIATIONS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE SENATE VOTE ON
THE AIRCRAFT SALES. JACK BINGHAM WAS CONCERNED ABOUT
JORDAN'S PRESENT PASSIVITY.

5. STATE APPROPRIATION

BECAUSE OF THE REQUIREMENT THAT THERE BE A COMPLETED
AUTHORIZATION BILL PRIOR TO THE ENACTMENT OF AN APPROPRIA-
TIONS BILL, MOST OF THE MONETARY ALLOTMENTS PROVIDED IN
THE STATE-JUSTICE-COMMERCE APPROPRIATIONS BILL WERE
ELIMINATED JUNE 14 BY POINTS OF ORDER. THE AMOUNTS VOTED

BY THE SENATE WILL NOW BE TAKEN TO CONFERENCE AND THE HOUSE CONFEREES WILL HAVE TO CARRY THE SENATE FIGURES BACK TO THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE. AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS STAFF, CONGRESSMAN BEARD WITHDREW HIS AMENDMENT TO THE APPROPRIATIONS BILL WHICH WOULD HAVE ELIMINATED THE FUNDING FOR THE INTERESTS SECTION IN HAVANA. HE INSTEAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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SUBSTITUTED AN AMENDMENT TO THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT PORTION OF THE BILL WHICH PROVIDED THAT "NO PART OF ANY APPROPRIATION...SHALL BE OBLIGATED OR EXPENDED FOR PROMOTING OR CONDUCTING TRADE RELATIONS WITH CUBA." AS TRADE RELATIONS WITH CUBA ARE CURRENTLY BANNED BY STATUTE, THE AMENDMENT WILL HAVE NO NOTICEABLE EFFECT ON U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.

6. NUCLEAR FUEL TO INDIA

EARLIER IN THE WEEK THE HIRC APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE A MOTION TO REPORT ADVERSELY THE RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE THE SHIPMENT OF NUCLEAR FUELS TO INDIA, THEREBY SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS ISSUE WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE FULL HOUSE SOME TIME NEXT WEEK. AT THIS TIME IT WOULD APPEAR THAT NO RESOLUTION WILL EMERGE FROM THE SENATE.

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION ACT, THE SFRC HAS UNTIL JUNE 21 TO ACT ON THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION. CONGRESS HAS UNTIL JULY 15 TO ADOPT A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL, OTHERWISE THE SHIPMENT CAN GO FORWARD. ADOPTION OF SUCH A RESOLUTION BY EITHER HOUSE IS NOT ANTICIPATED.

7. UGANDA

JUNE 13 THE HOUSE PASSED A NON-BINDING CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 377-0 CONDEMNING VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA AND URGING THE PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT MEASURES, INCLUDING AN ECONOMIC EMBARGO, WHICH WOULD DISCOURAGE U.S. SUPPORT OF UGANDA.

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THE RESOLUTION WILL NOW GO TO THE SENATE WHERE IT WILL BE CONSIDERED ALONG WITH MORE STRINGENT LEGISLATION BY THE CHURCH SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SFRC.

8. MFN WAIVER AUTHORITY FOR HUNGARY AND ROMANIA

THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS TRADE SUBCOMMITTEE THURSDAY HEARD TESTIMONY FROM 24 WITNESSES ON THE PRESIDENT'S JUNE 2 RECOMMENDATION TO EXTEND THE JACKSON-VANIK WAIVER AUTHORITY UNDER THE TRADE ACT, SPECIFICALLY TO CONTINUE THE WAIVERS FOR HUNGARY AND ROMANIA, AND TO RENEW THE TRADE AGREEMENT PROVIDING NON-DISCRIMINATORY (MFN) TREATMENT TO ROMANIAN PRODUCTS. BILL LUERS (EUR) WAS THE PRINCIPAL WITNESS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, SUPPORTED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMERCE, TREASURY AND STR. THE SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ASKED ANTICIPATED QUESTIONS ON ROMANIAN EMIGRATION PERFORMANCE, OBTAINING ASSURANCES FOR THE RECORD THAT STATE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR CLOSELY THE MANNER IN WHICH THE ROMANIAN'S CARRY OUT THEIR ASSURANCES IN THIS REGARD. QUESTIONS ON ROMANIAN TRADE PERFORMANCE WERE GENERAL, WITH VANIK EXPRESSING MILD CONCERN OVER ROMANIAN EXPORTS OF SENSITIVE PRODUCTS SUCH AS SHOES AND TEXTILES AND ON THE DECLINING US SURPLUS IN TRADE WITH ROMANIA OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. SEVERAL CLAIMS CASES WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. NO QUESTIONS WERE RAISED ON HUNGARY ITSELF OR ON THE HUNGARIAN MINORITY IN ROMANIA.

REPRESENTATIVES HAMILTON, FINDLEY AND DERWINSKI APPEARED AS WITNESSES FROM THE HIRC TO GIVE STRONG SUPPORT FOR RENEWAL OF THE WAIVER AUTHORITY FOR BOTH COUNTRIES. REPRESENTATIVE DODD ALSO APPEARED TO TESTIFY AND, ALTHOUGH HE WOUND UP SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION "WITH GREAT RESERVATIONS," SHARPLY ATTACKED ROMANIAN PERFORMANCE ON EMIGRATION AND DIVIDED FAMILIES. HE ALSO RAISED THE SENSITIVE CASE OF CONSTANTINE RAUTA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(WHO DEFECTED WITH AN OFFICIAL POUCH DURING CEAUSESCU'S 1975 VISIT TO THE U.S.), ELICITING A STRONG REJOINDER FROM VANIK ON THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THE RAUTA CASE AND THE DANGER OF PRESSING IT TO THE POINT OF CAUSING LESS ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN THE THOUSANDS OF OTHER "CLEAN" CASES. OTHER NON-GOVERNMENT WITNESSES CRITICIZED THE U.S. FOR NOT INTERVENING IN EMIGRATION CASES TO ISRAEL, BUT THERE TOO VANIK STRESSED THE FACT THAT THE COMMITTEE'S AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S LEVERAGE WAS LIMITED AND SHOULD PROBABLY BE DIRECTED AT FACILITATING EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES.

9. HUNGARIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL MARK UP THE RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RECENTLY NEGOTIATED TRADE AGREEMENT WITH HUNGARY ON JUNE 22. WE HAVE PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE TRADE AGREEMENT AND THE ASSURANCES ON EMIGRATION POLICY

RECEIVED FROM THE HUNGARIANS (AS REQUIRED BY THE JACKSON-VANIK PROVISIONS OF THE TRADE ACT) TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AND HAVE MET PERSONALLY WITH SEVERAL OF THEM AND NO DIFFICULTY IS EXPECTED EITHER IN MARKUP OR ON THE SENATE FLOOR. THE BILL IS NOT LIKELY TO GO TO THE FLOOR UNTIL AFTER THE JULY RECESS. THE AGREEMENT WAS APPROVED BY THE HOUSE ON MAY 22.

10. ANTI-TERRORISM LEGISLATION

ANTI-TERRORISM LEGISLATION IS SCHEDULED FOR MARKUP BY THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE JUNE 20.

IN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS, WE FIND SOME SYMPATHY FOR OUR RECOMMENDATION THAT SANCTIONS, NOW TO BE APPLIED ON AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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AUTOMATIC BASIS, BE MADE DISCRETIONARY. THERE IS LITTLE SYMPATHY, HOWEVER, FOR OUR EFFORT TO ELIMINATE THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION VETO FROM SECTION 5 -- THE SECTION WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE PRESIDENT TO REMOVE A COUNTRY FROM THE LIST OF THOSE WHICH HAVE DEMONSTRATED A PATTERN OF SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. THE ARGUMENT THAT THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION VETO IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL FALLS ON DEAF EARS ON THE HILL.

11. EXIM BANK BILL

PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE HOUSE WILL NOT RESUME ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE EXIM BANK BILL UNTIL THE LAST WEEK IN JULY. SENATE FLOOR ACTION IS LIKELY TO BE EVEN LONGER DELAYED IN VIEW OF A DECISION REACHED BY THE CULVER SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE TO DELAY ITS HEARING ON THE NEPA PROVISION (STEVENSON AMENDMENT) OF THE BILL UNTIL MID JULY. THIS WILL PROBABLY MEAN THAT THE BILL WOULD NOT BE READY FOR THE SENATE FLOOR UNTIL AUGUST. VANCE

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